Docket No.: A5868.0035

(PATENT)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application of: Ichiro Koguma et al.

Application No.: To be assigned (U.S. National

Stage Patent Application based on

PCT/JP03/13329 filed October 17, 2003).

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

For: HYDROPHILIC MICROPOROUS

MEMBRANE

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Art Unit: To be assigned.

Examiner: To be assigned.

## FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

## INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 6 of this paper.